requirements of Doordarshan. This practice will continue.

दूरदर्शन पर संस्कृत समाचार-बुलेटिन और अन्य कार्यक्रमों का प्रसारण

122. **श्री अजीत जोगी:**
चौधरी हरि सिंह:

क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार दूरदर्शन के राष्ट्रीय नेटवर्क में संस्कृत-समाचार तथा अन्य कार्यक्रमों के प्रसारण का विचार रखती है:

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो क्या सरकार निकट भविष्य में इन कार्यक्रमों के प्रसारण का विचार रखती है?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय के राज्यमंत्री (श्री के॰पी॰सिंह देव): (क) से (ग) यद्यपि, वर्तमान में, दूरदर्शन के पास अपने राष्ट्रीय नेटवर्क पर संस्कृत में समाचार बुलेटिन प्रसारित करने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है, तथापि इसके द्वारा समय-समय पर संस्कृत में कार्यक्रम पहले से ही प्रसारित किए जा रहे हैं।

Foreign TV Networks in the Country

123. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAV-RAO JADHAV: SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Television networks in operation in the country, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government are aware of the difference in the cultural outlook between foreign countries and our country;

(c) whether some of the programmes telecast by these T.V. networks have adverse effect on our family life;

(d) whether Government are also aware that these programmes do have bad effects on our children; and

(e) the remedialmeasures taken by Government to check the dominance of western culture including a legislation, teken/visualised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Doordarshan is the only television network operating in India.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The programming on a number of foreign channels, operating from outside India, the signals of which can be received in the country through an appropriate dish antenna, are considered by many as being alien to Indian culture and life style.

(e) The programming on the Doordarshan channels has been restructured to provide a wholesome fare of predominantly Indian Programming at the national and regional levels so as to sustain the interests of its viewers.

Regionalisation of Doordarshan

124. SHRI GOVINDRAO RAMRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan has gone 'regional' in a big way since the beginning of February, 1994;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps Government have taken so far/propose to take so that Doordarshan reaches the common man and the rural masses the urban youth and middle classes, business and industry and share market people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) The following regional

language satellite channels of Doordarshan have been in operation since 1st February, 1994:—

Doordarshan—IV

Kannada, Malayalam, Tamil and Telugu.

Doordarshan—V

Assamese, Bangia and Oriya.

Doordarshan—VI

Gujarati, Kashmiri, Marathi and Punjabi.

(c) The reach of Doordarshan is being constantly increased through an expansion of its network. Simultaneously its programming is also being so structured to cater to the widest cross section of the population.

Expanding TV Network for Screening Foreign Programmes

125. SHRI MENTAY PADMANSBHAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent Government have met the challenges of foreign TV;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the new TV programmes are foreign serials; and

(c) if so, whether it is necessary to expand our TV network for screening foreign programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Despite the multiplicity of programming choice available today from varied sources, the programmes shown on the channels of Doordarshan continue to enjoy the highest viewership in the country.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Impact of the entry of Foreign Media

126. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had received any representations from the Delhi Union of Journalists (DUJ) over the "open sesame policy" of allowing foreign media into the country;

(b) if so, what is the reaciton of Government thereon; and

(c) what are the steps taken by Government to consider the impact of the entry of foreign media?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The existing policies of the Government restrict publication of foreign owned newspapers/periodicals in India and publication of Indian editions of foreign newspapers/periodicals. Besides foreign news agencies are required to operate their news services in the country only through Indian news agencies.

Scrapping of Censorship of Children's Films

127. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the head of Children's Film Society has recommended scrapping censorship;

(b) if so, whether he is advocating the showing of violence and vulgar scenes to children; and

(c) whether any explanation has been sought from this Government appointtee in this regard?